

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is effective to cancel claims 1-3 and 11-13, thereby effectively electing a single species for further prosecution in this application.

In particular, in the restriction requirement mailed March 18, 2003 in the parent application 10/200,777, the Examiner enumerated five different species, as follows:

1. Figs. 1-2b;
2. Fig. 3;
3. Figs. 5a-5;
4. Figs. 6a-b; and
5. Fig. 9.

The claims remaining after this Preliminary Amendment are claims 4-10 and 14-20, and these claims are readable on the species illustrated in Fig. 9.

Also, this Preliminary Amendment is effective to reduce the number of independent claims, thereby reducing the required filing fee. As such, it is requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered prior to calculation of the filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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